

## **SAMPLE APPROVED PROTOCOLS**

### **ASSISTED ADMINISTRATION OF PATIENT PRESCRIBED NITROGLYCERIN**

**PROVIDER NAME:** \_\_\_\_\_ **PROVIDER NO. 60** \_\_\_\_\_

This protocol may be used by properly trained and licensed EMTs for treatment patients who have been previously diagnosed as having heart disease, have prescribed nitroglycerin (NTG), and are having chest pain thought to be of cardiac origin. EMTs-basic must obtain a direct voice order from the medical control physician in all cases **prior** to administration of nitroglycerin.

#### **I. Nitroglycerin**

##### **A. Contraindications**

1. Hypotension or blood pressure below 100 mm Hg systolic
2. Head injury
3. Infants and/or children
4. Patient has already met the maximum prescribed dose prior to EMT arrival

#### **II. Perform patient assessment.**

##### **A. Perform initial assessment**

##### **B. Perform focused history and physical exam for cardiac patient**

1. History of chest pain? Heart disease?
2. Onset of chest pain and progression since onset?
3. Interventions (previous nitroglycerin taken)?

##### **C. Assess baseline vital signs and SAMPLE history**

1. Assure BP above 100 mmHg systolic

##### **D. Administer oxygen (if not done previously) - consider Advanced Life Support**

##### **E. Contact medical control - specifically request implementation of nitroglycerin protocol for chest pain, report findings**

##### **F. Obtain voice authorization, including dosage; repeat order back to physician**

##### **G. Verify patients' own medication, medication not expired. Assure right patient, right medication, right route and patient is alert**

- H. If authorization granted, facilitate administration of medication
1. Ask patient to lift tongue and place tablet or spray dose under tongue (wear gloves) or have patient place tablet or spray under tongue
  2. Ask patient to keep mouth closed with tablet under tongue (without swallowing) until dissolved and absorbed

**(If authorization for nitroglycerin protocol disapproved- transport, continue to monitor patient and maintain contact with medical control.)**

- J. Record actions, transport and continue to monitor and reassess
1. Monitor blood pressure
  2. Record effect on pain relief
  3. Record any reported side affects (headache, hypotension, pulse rate changes)
- K. Doses may be repeated in 3-5 minutes if no relief, BP > 100 and with physician authorization, up to a maximum of three doses.

Approved by: \_\_\_\_\_ Medical Director (Print)

\_\_\_\_\_ Medical Director (Signature)

\_\_\_\_\_ Date